Space Weather Forecast

Issued on Sunday 3 November 2024 at 13:06 Local

This forecast provides a four-day assessment of space weather events. The probabilities stated below are for reaching or exceeding the given levels. For more information about space weather impacts please see the Met Office Space Weather Scales https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/space-weather/uk-scales

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Space Weather Forecast Headline: Moderate to High solar activity with Moderate flares expected, and a slight chance of Strong flares.

Analysis of Space Weather Activity over past 24 hours

Solar Activity: Activity was moderate with two Moderate flares, the largest of which from a large region in the north centre disc. There are fourteen active regions, including one as yet unnumbered region. The large region mentioned above remains the most active flare source with a complex magnetic structure. A cluster of spots in the southwest contain a couple of spots that have continued to show some complexity in their structure, as well as some recent flare activity. Most other sunspots only showing slow evolution currently.

No Earth-directed CMEs (coronal mass ejections) were observed in available imagery.

Solar Wind / Geomagnetic Activity: Solar winds have generally been at slightly elevated levels, very briefly reaching elevated levels. The Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF), Bt, was mostly moderate. The north-south component, Bz, was mostly weak but did fluctuate to moderate in both positive and negative directions. Geomagnetic activity was Quiet to Unsettled (Kp1-3).

Energetic Particles / Solar Radiation: The count rate of energetic particles (high energy protons) remained below S1 Minor Radiation Storm levels, continuing to slowly ease through the period.

Four-Day Space Weather Forecast Summary

Solar Activity: Moderate or High activity is expected to continue with occasional Moderate flares expected and a chance of further isolated Strong flares. Into days 3-4 (04-05 Nov) flare risk perhaps reducing somewhat as sunspot regions in the west begin to rotate off the visible disk.

Solar Wind / Geomagnetic Activity: A CME which left the sun during the 31st Oct has the potential to give a glancing blow to Earth late on day 1 (03 Nov) or into early day 2 (04 Nov). Fast winds from two coronal holes may also cause some enhancement during this same period. Quiet to Unsettled geomagnetic activity is expected initially. Activity expected to increase to become more generally Unsettled later day 1 (03 Nov) and day 2 (04 Nov), with a chance of Active and a slight chance of G1/Minor Geomagnetic Storm intervals given the risk of the glancing CME blow and faster solar wind influence. Activity currently expected to be generally Quiet to Unsettled once again by day 4 (06 Nov).

Issued by Met Office Space Weather Advisor, Tel: +44 (0) 370 900 0100 Email: enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk

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Energetic Particles / Solar Radiation: The count rate of energetic particles (High energy protons) is now below the S1 Moderate Radiation Storm level, and continuing to slowly decline. However, any further notable flares bring a persistent chance for further enhancement during the period.

Geomagnetic Storms

Geomagnetic Storm Probability (Exceedance)	Level	Past 24 Hours (Yes/No)	Day 1 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 2 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 3 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 4 (00-24 UTC) (%)
Minor or Moderate	G1 to G2	No	20	20	5	1
Strong	G3	No	1	1	1	1
Severe	G4	No	1	1	1	1
Extreme	G5	No	1	1	1	1

Radio Blackouts - X-Ray Flares

X-Ray Flares Probability	Level	Past 24 Hours (Yes/No)	Day 1 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 2 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 3 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 4 (00-24 UTC) (%)
Active	R1-R2 (M Class)	Yes	80	70	70	70
Very Active	R3-R5 (X Class)	No	20	20	15	15

Solar Radiation Storms (High Energy Protons)

Radiation Storms Probability (Exceedance)	Level ($cm^{-2}sr^{-1}s^{-1}$)	Past 24 Hours (Yes/No)	Day 1 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 2 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 3 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 4 (00-24 UTC) (%)
Active	≥ S1	No	25	25	20	20
Very Active	≥ S3 *	No	5	5	5	5
* S3 ≥ 10 MeV ≥ 1000 pfu and/or 50 MeV ≥ 10pfu. (pfu = $cm^{-2}sr^{-1}s^{-1}$)						

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